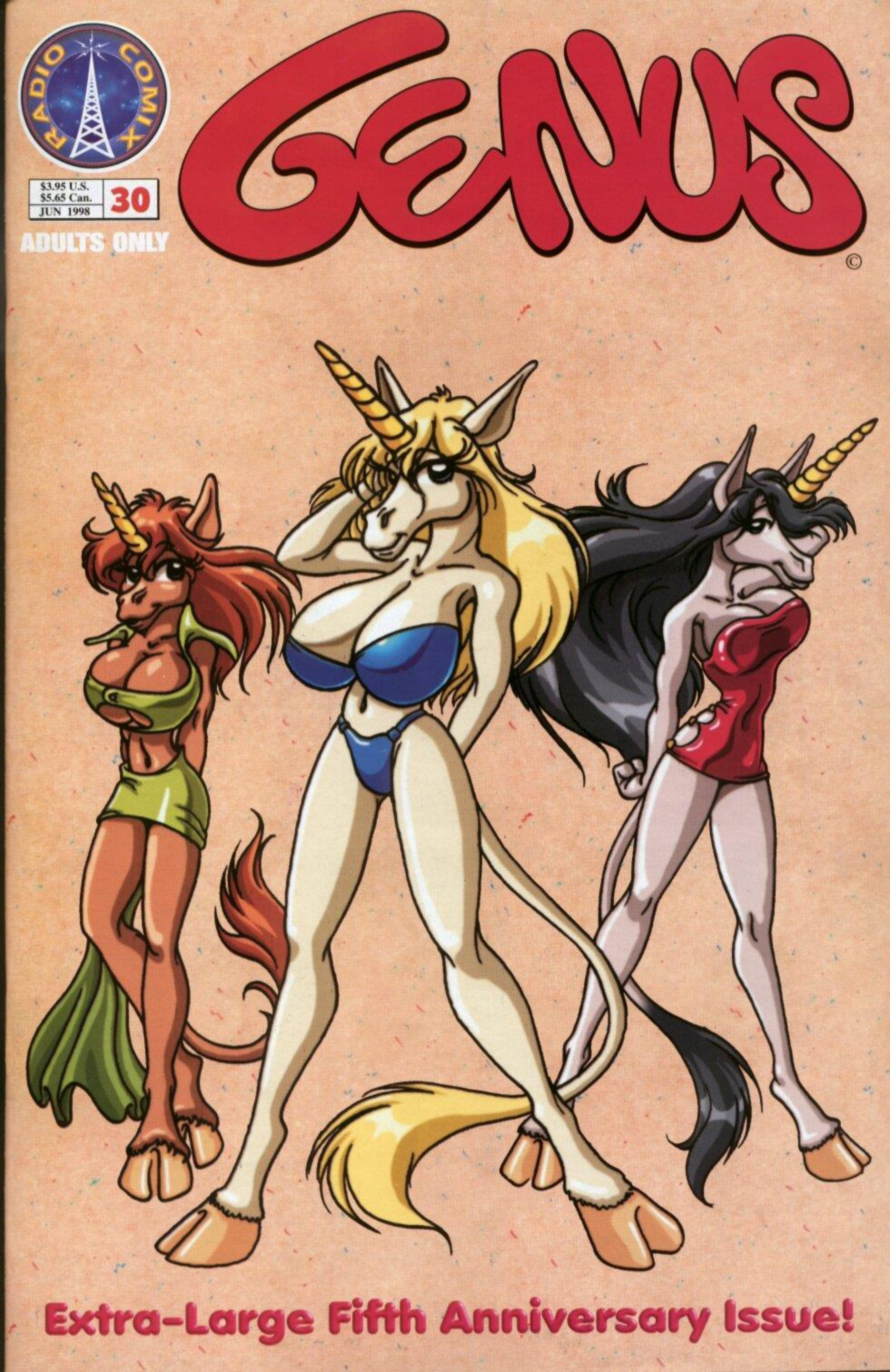
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CONTENTS

THE UPS & DOWNS... Part 2 — 2
By James Hardiman

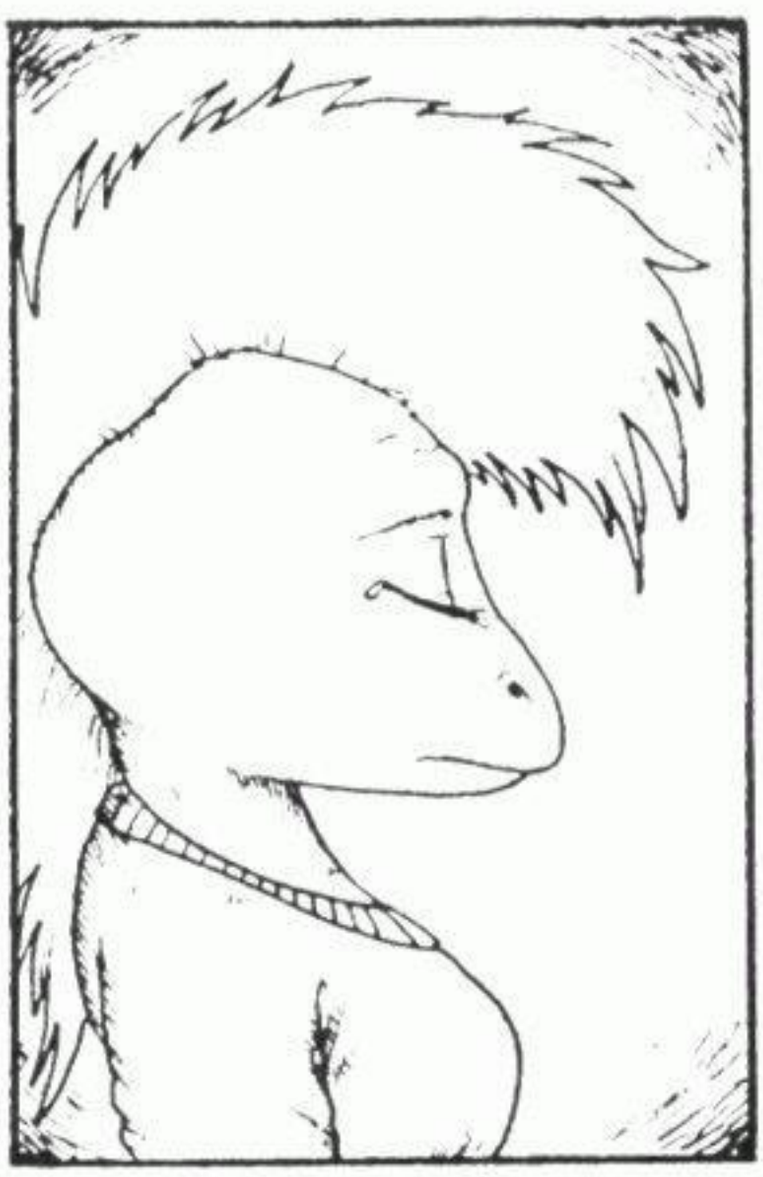
COLLARS & CUFFS — 10
By Robin Lane, Dennis Clark & Joyceanna Brock

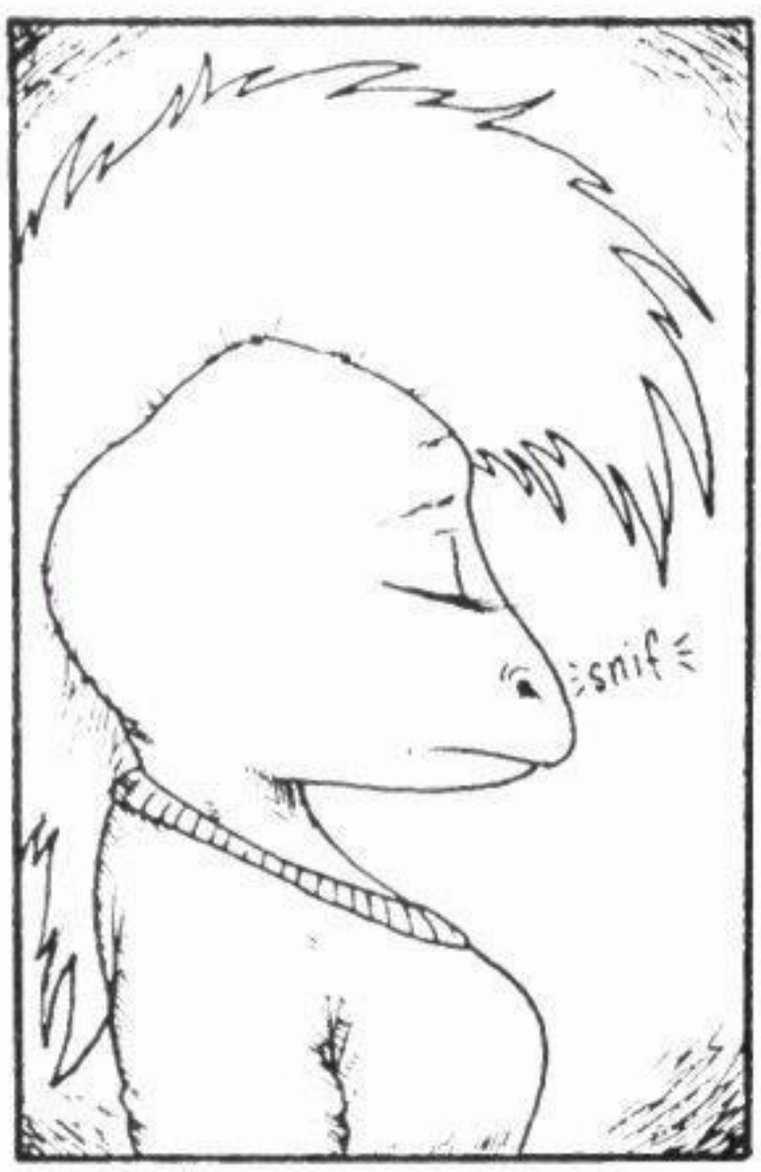
UROTSUKIDOGGY — 17
By Brian Sutton, Shon Howell & Darin Brown

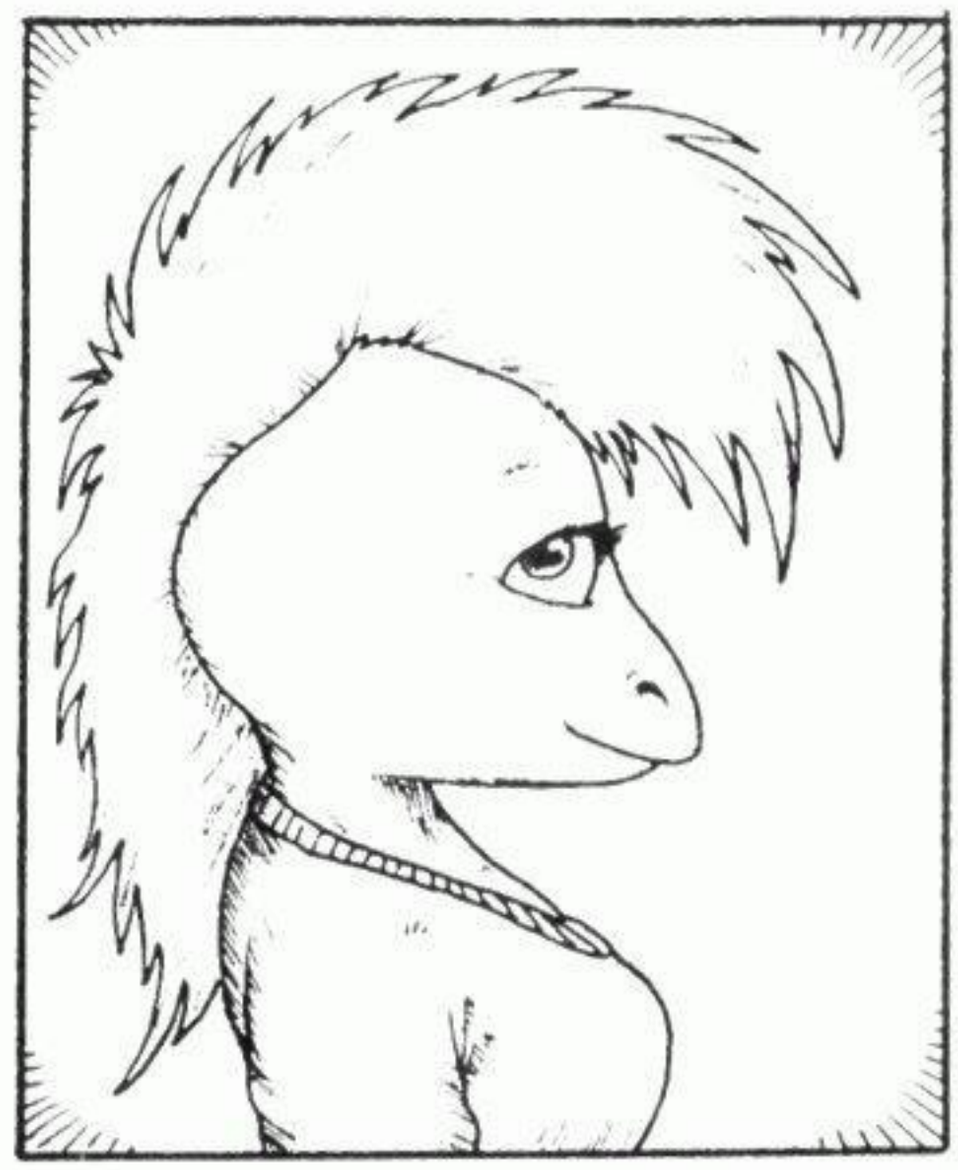
CROSSED WIRES Part 2 — 27
By Paul Kidd & Kurt Wilcken

GENUS INDEX — 37
From 1 to 29!

LETTERS & CLASSIFIEDS — 39
From Our Readers







THE UPS AND DOWNS OF ANTHROPOMORPHIC RELATIONSHIPS

• HOSTED BY DR. DÉSIRÉE LEE, CPA •

STORY AND ART BY: James M. Hardiman

©1998 041698

OH, STOP YOUR WHINING. YOU ACT LIKE THIS IS A **CHORE** OR SOMETHING.

CHORES DON'T LAND YOU IN THE HOSPITAL.

WELL, I'M **SORRY**, BUT WE DON'T HAVE **TIME** FOR YOUR INSIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS.

THE DOCTORS ALL THOUGHT I'D BEEN IN A HEAD-ON COLLISION WITH A CONVOY OF CEMENT TRUCKS.

WHILE RIDING A BICYCLE.

OH, WHAT DO **THEY** KNOW?

ANYWAY, HURRY UP AND GET READY. WE'RE TACKLING A BUNCH OF NEW SPECIES TODAY.

LET ME GUESS. IS THERE A **TYRANOSAURUS** IN THERE SOMEWHERE, YOU SADISTIC LITTLE--

KEEP IT UP, AND THERE **WILL** BE.

DIFFERENT SPECIES THAT SHOULD NEVER MATE

OKAY... ON WITH THE SHOW!

"FIRST UP IS BRITTANY, A 22-YEAR OLD GIRAFFE FROM SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA."

HIYA!

"THE PRO: GIRAFFES HAVE VERY LONG NECKS, WHICH TRANSLATES INTO SOME SERIOUS DEEP-THROAT ACTION..."

whoa, momma!

"THE CON: UNLESS YOU'RE A MALE OF MYTHICAL PROPORTIONS, YOU'LL NEVER GET A CHANCE TO TRY IT OUT."

OH YEAH! ALL THE WAY DOWN!

I'VE SUCKED STRAWS LONGER THAN THIS GUY.

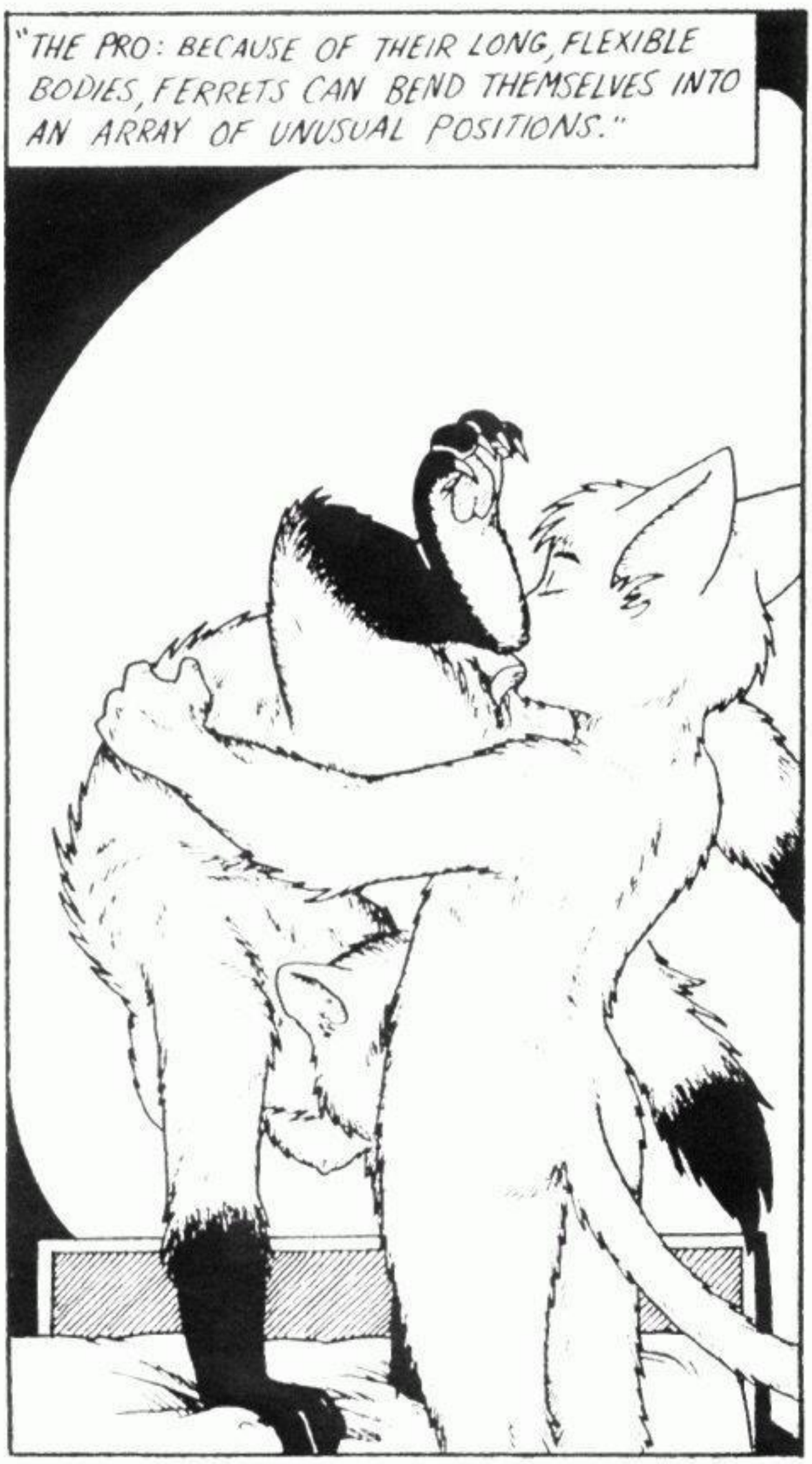
WELL, HECK, THAT WASN'T SO BAD!
DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY'RE HATCHED.
"NEXT UP IS KIENNA, A LIONESS FROM RWANDA, SOUTH AFRICA."

"THE PRO: LIONESSES HAVE THE SAME INSATIABLE SEX DRIVE THAT ALL FELINES SHARE, BUT THEY'RE LARGER AND MORE AGGRESSIVE."
C'MON! DRIVE IT IN!! I'M NOT MADE OF GLASS!!
I THINK YOU JUST SNAPPED MY SPINE!
"THEY'RE ALSO MUCH STRONGER."

"THE CON: MUCH LIKE THEIR FOUR-LEGGED ANCESTORS, LIONESSES ALSO LIKE TO DO THINGS IN GROUPS."
FORGET IT, SISTER!!
GET BACK HERE!
THE OTHERS ARE ON THEIR WAY.

HERE'S SOMETHING A BIT DIFFERENT...

"HER NAME IS SHANNON, A 19-YEAR OLD BLACK-FOOTED FERRET FROM ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO."
H'LO!


"THE PRO: BECAUSE OF THEIR LONG, FLEXIBLE BODIES, FERRETS CAN BEND THEMSELVES INTO AN ARRAY OF UNUSUAL POSITIONS."

"THE CON: THIS FLEXIBILITY CAN BE SOMEWHAT UNNERVING."
I FEEL LIKE I'M FUCKING A SLINKY.

"OKAY, HERE WE HAVE JACOSTA, AN 18-YEAR OLD DALMATION FROM HAMILTON, OHIO."

SOMEONE MENTION BURYING A BONE?

"THE PRO: BECAUSE OF THEIR DISTINCTIVE COAT PATTERN, DALMATIONS CAN TAKE PART IN AMUSING SEX GAMES, LIKE 'CONNECT THE DOTS.'"

hee-hee! THAT TICKLES!

"THE CON: GAMES LIKE 'CONNECT THE DOTS' CAN LEAD TO DEHYDRATION."

Water...

"ALL RIGHT, NOW. THIS HERE IS SHEILA, A KANGAROO FROM MARYSVALE, UTAH."

I'M NOT AN AUSSIE, SO DON'T EXPECT ME TO SAY "G'DAY."

"THE PRO: A KANGAROO'S LEGS ARE MADE FOR JUMPING, AN ADAPTATION THAT COMES IN REAL HANDY IN THE BEDROOM."

BOING!

BOING!

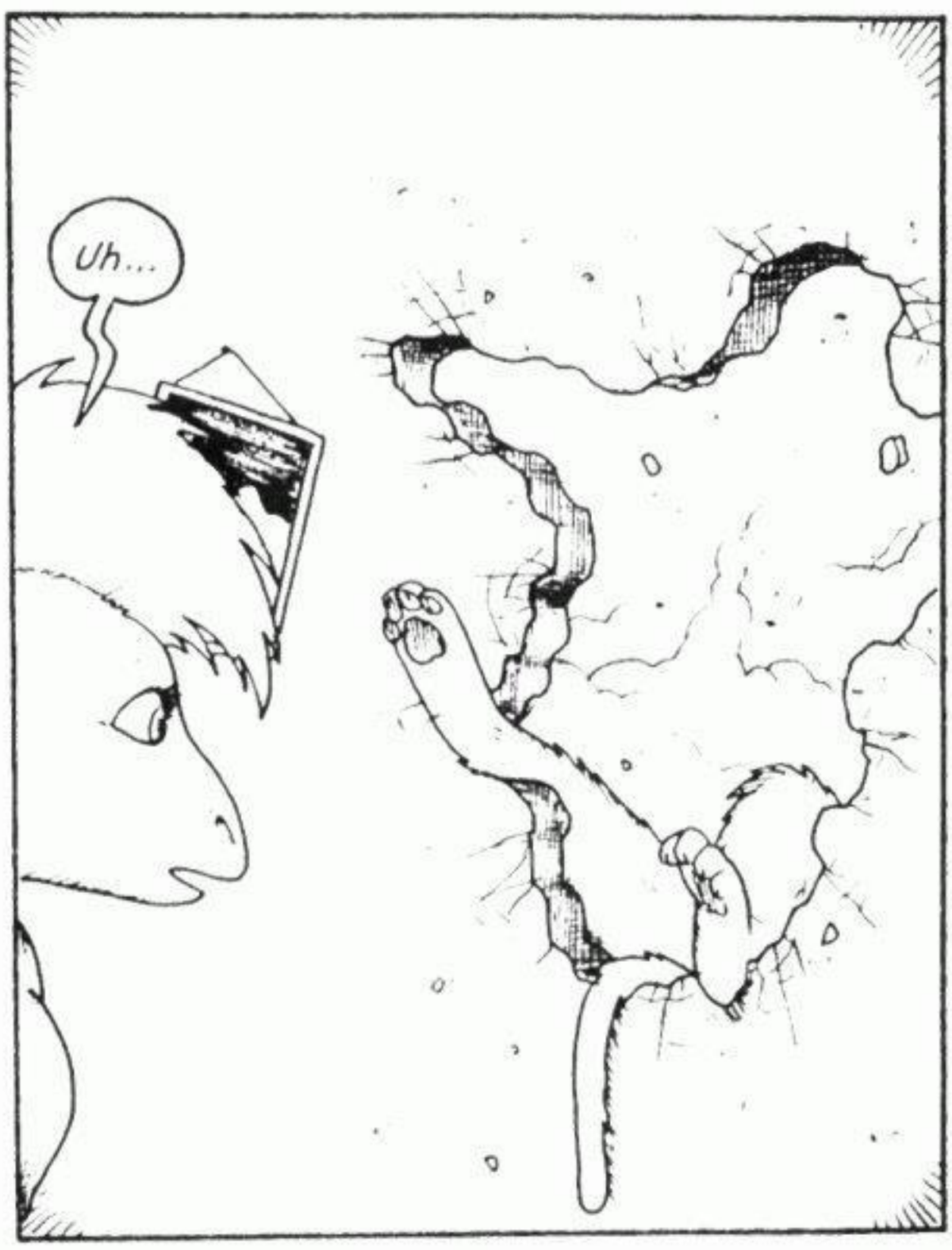
BOING

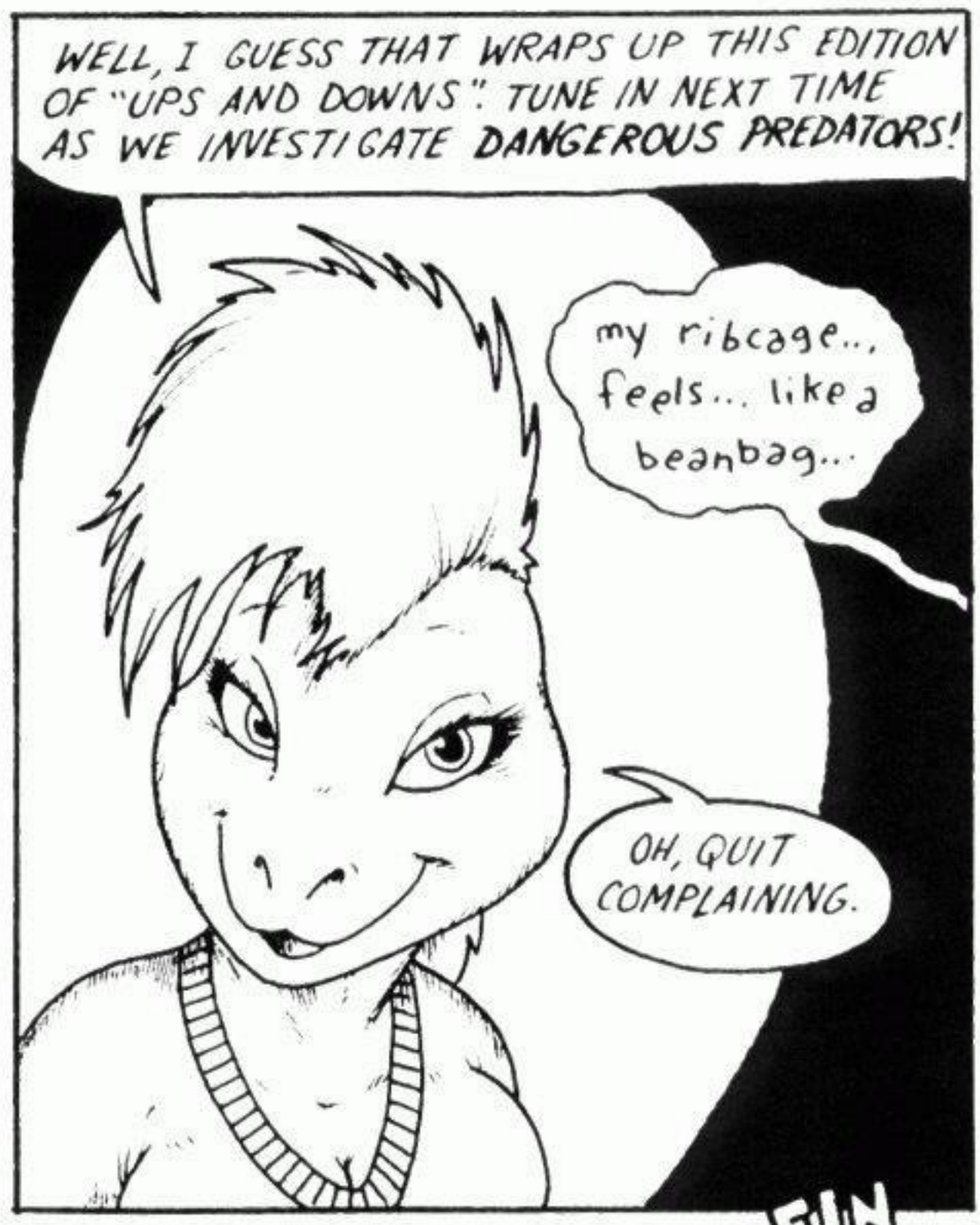
"THE CON: REMEMBER, THE KANGAROO SHOULD BE ON TOP!"

OH YESS!!

OOOOFF!

?


Uh...


WELL, I GUESS THAT WRAPS UP THIS EDITION OF "UPS AND DOWNS". TUNE IN NEXT TIME AS WE INVESTIGATE DANGEROUS PREDATORS!
my ribcage... feels... like a beanbag...
OH, QUIT COMPLAINING.

FIN

Collars And Cuffs
by Lane, Clark, and Brock

WHAT THEY NEED...

...IS A DATE FROM

HELL!

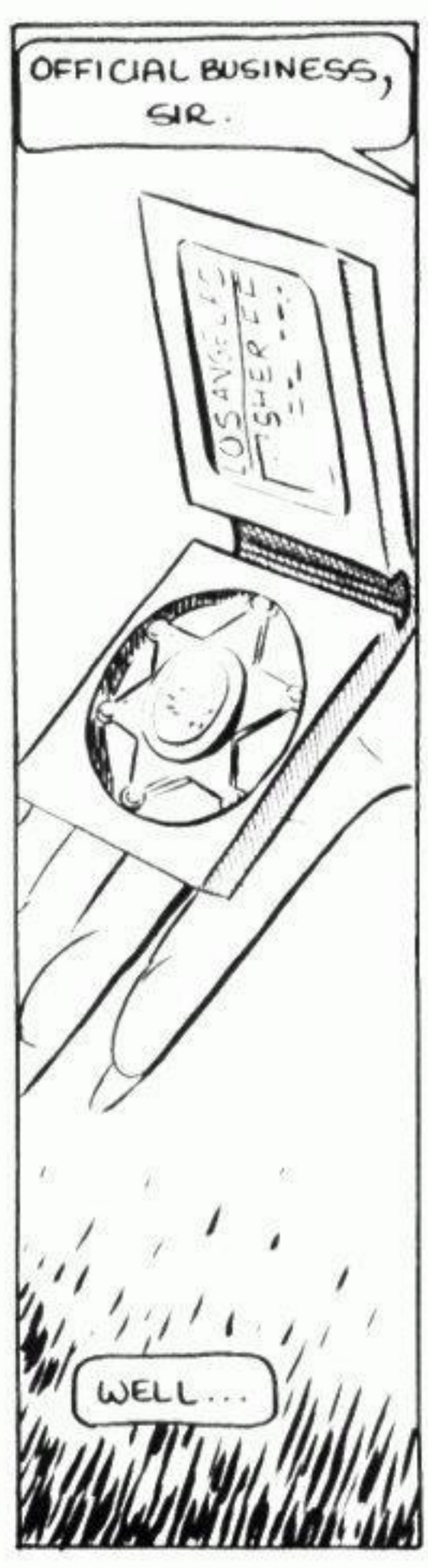
don't hurt me!

SHADES OF CASABLANCA!
MAN, I LOVE THAT MOVIE.

YOU KNOW, A RESTAURANT IN FRISCO CLAIMS THAT HAMMET ATE THERE.
EVER TRY THEM?

MEANWHILE...
IF SHE'S NOT HERE, I DON'T KNOW WHERE ELSE TO LOOK.

UH, MRS. COLLARS! WHAT'S NEW?
YOU'VE GOT TO COME WITH ME!
HEY!


OFFICIAL BUSINESS, SIR.
WELL...

IS SKYLER OKAY?
SHE'S IN DANGER...

...OF BECOMING STRAIGHT.
PUNCH IT! DOES THIS THING HAVE A SIREN?
SQUEEEE!
EXIT

YOU MOVE WELL FOR A BIG MAN, ISN'T THAT THE OLD CLICHÉ?

YEAH. YOU DANCE A LOT?

damn! think of doing dishes!

UH... HELLO?

oh God!

UH, YOU, UM, I'D...

...SIT DOWN! GOOD IDEA!

think of dessert!

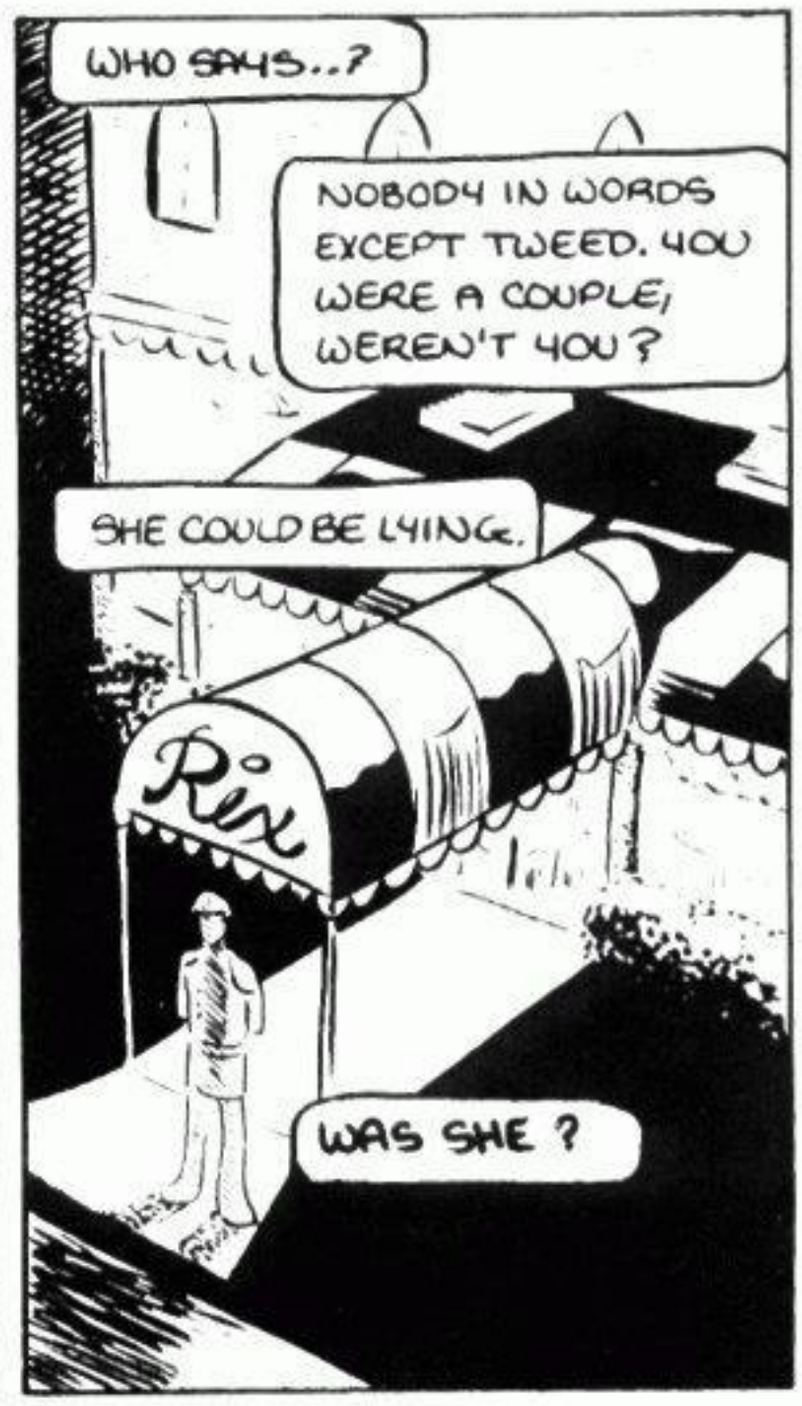
UM-HM!

HOW HUMILIATING! HE MUST THINK I'M A TEASE!

TWICE DIVORCED AND ACTING LIKE A TEENAGER!

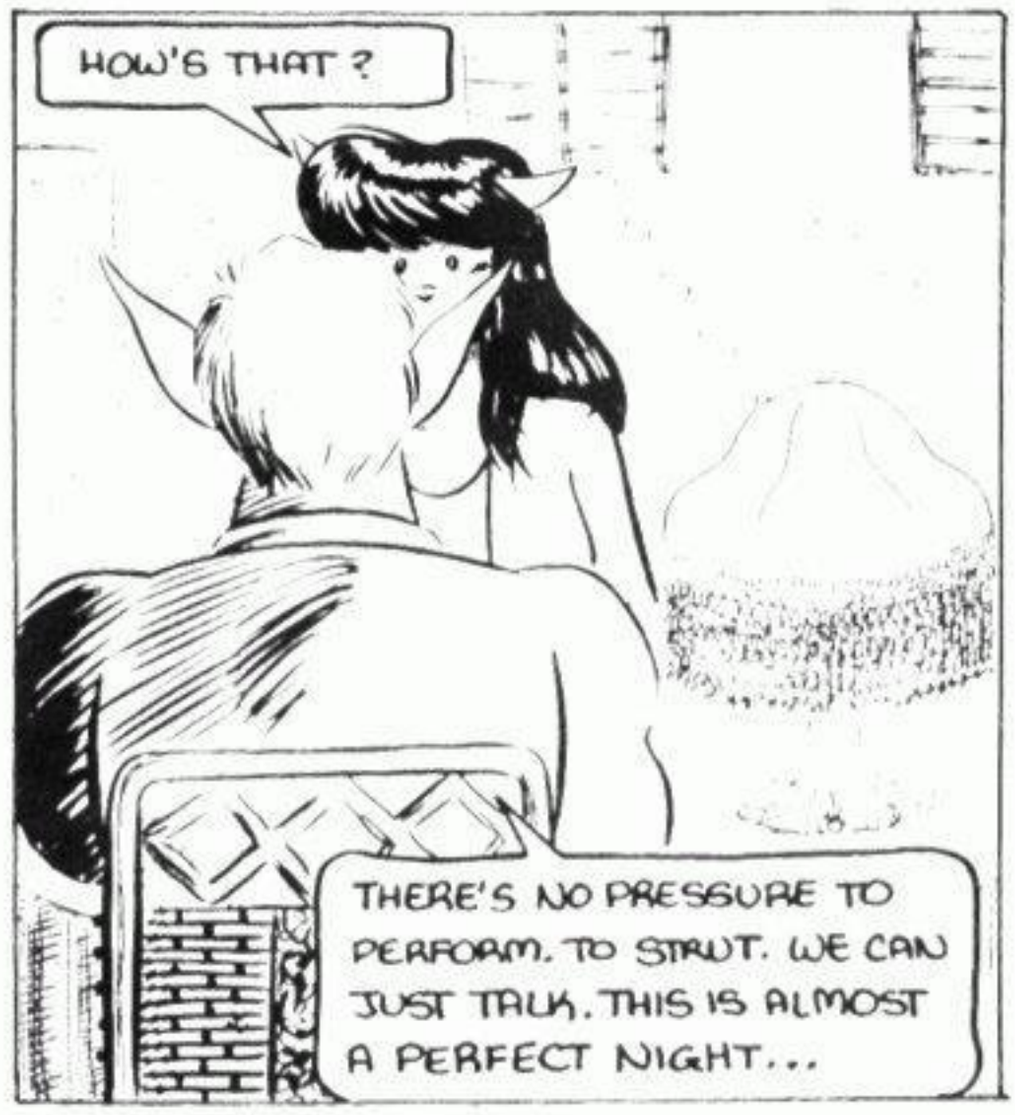
I'M SORRY, SKYLER. I KNOW YOU'RE A LESBIAN...

!!!


WHO SAYS..?
NOBODY IN WORDS EXCEPT TWEED. YOU WERE A COUPLE, WEREN'T YOU?
SHE COULD BE LYING.
Rex
WAS SHE ?

-ANYONE ELSE THINK I'M GAY?
I DON'T THINK THE REST OF THE CLUB HEARD. SOME OTHER DEPUTIES. MOST DON'T CARE.

IGNORE THE REST. PEOPLE LIKE YOU. END OF STORY. HELL, YOU'RE THE BEST DATE I EVER HAD.


HOW'S THAT ?
THERE'S NO PRESSURE TO PERFORM. TO STRUT. WE CAN JUST TALK. THIS IS ALMOST A PERFECT NIGHT...

ALMOST ?
WELL, GETTING LAID MAKES IT PERFECT.
:snort:. SORRY.

OUTSIDE...
I'LL NEED I.D., LADIES.
UH...

RIGHT HERE.
HAVE A NICE NIGHT...

I FEEL LIKE ANOTHER DANCE. YOU UP TO IT?
I HOPE NOT!
SKYLER?

CARMEN?!?

YOU TWO ARE SUCH A CUTE COUPLE, I HAD TO DO SOMETHING...

SHE SAID THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG.
NOTHING'S WRONG, CARMEN. I WAS JUST HAVING DINNER WITH A FRIEND.
HEAR THAT, HUGHEY? JUST A FRIEND!

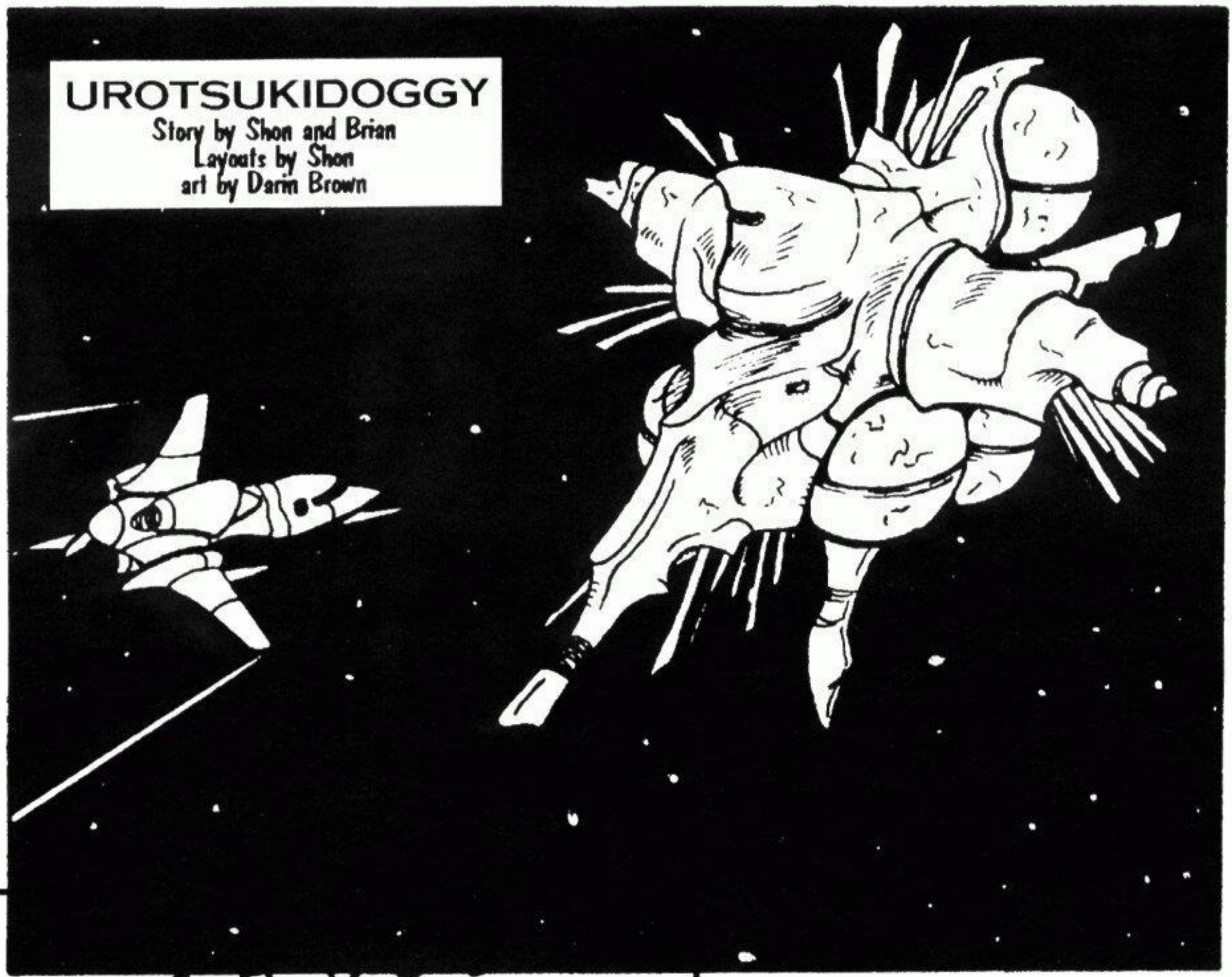
MRS. COLLARS SAID THIS GUY WAS AFTER YOU. I HAD TO...
NIK WAS JEALOUS DEPUTY HUGHE AND I WERE WORKING ON A CHARITY PROJECT, HON. THAT'S ALL.

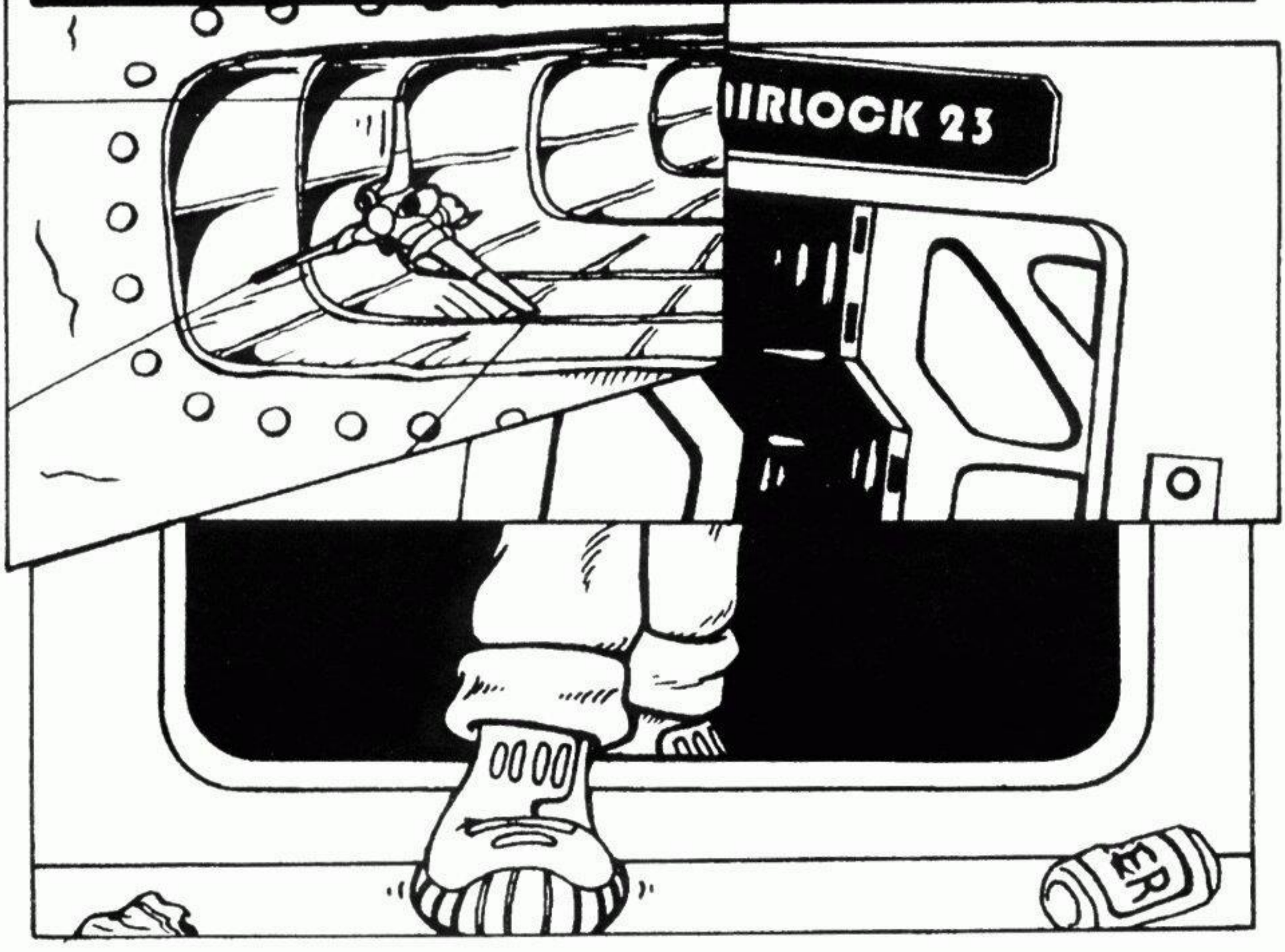
OH!
LET'S GO HOME.
THAT'LL BE TEN HAIL MARYS AND OUR FATHERS.

COME ON... ONE LITTLE DRINKWPOO? AT YOUR PLACE?
I DON'T THINK YOUR HUSBAND WOULD LIKE THAT.
WELL, THAT'S A BUST. I'LL GIVE SKY AND CARMEN A RIDE HOME.
RING
RING RING
I'M BUSY, NIK. beep
I'M BUSY, NIK. beep
THIS IS REALLY IMMATURE, SKYLER. WHERE'S MY TRUCK? WHY—
I'M BUSY, NIK. beep
Guess where your truck is?
SHIT! SHE TOOK THIS AWFULLY PERSONAL!
C'MON, SKY, DON'T BE MAD. WHERE'S MY TRUCK?
WHERE'S MY TRUCK??
IT'S AT THE IMPOUND, NIK. I'LL TELL YOU IN A MONTH OR TWO.

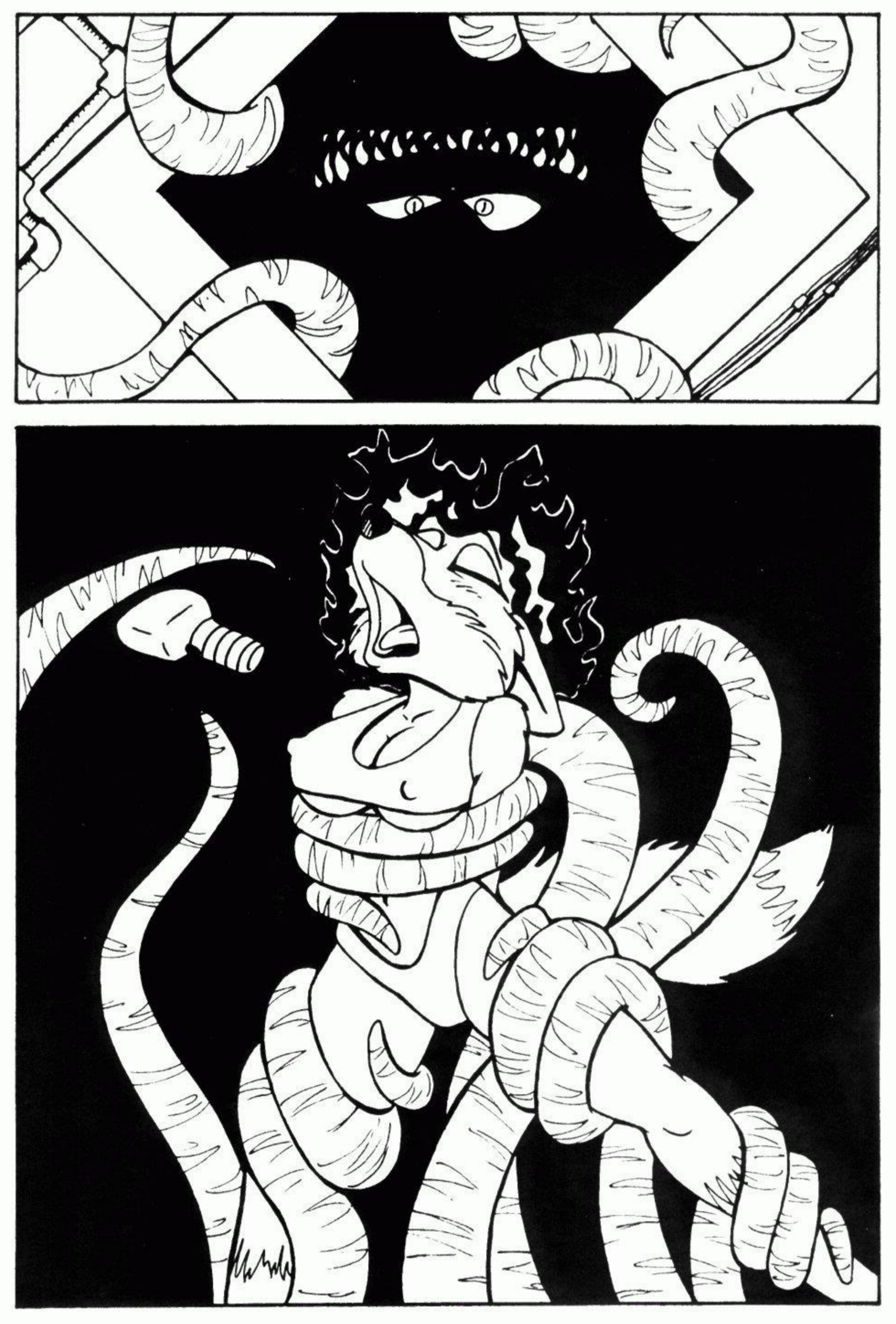
UROTSUKIDOGGY

Story by Shon and Brian
Layouts by Shon
art by Darin Brown





RIDLEY



OH... WOOW, UH... YOU OKAY?
GRRR... YESS, FINE.
WELL HAPPY BIRTHDAY. I REALLY HOPE YOU ENJOYED THAT! YEESH!
HEY! NOW WAIT JUST ONE MINUTE! THIS WHOLE ROLEPLAYING THING WAS YOUR IDEA!
YEAH WELL, I WISH YOU'D JUST MASTURBATE LIIKE EVERYONE ELSE!

Crossed Wires PART TWO

Story: Paul Kidd **Art:** Kurt Wilcken

Don't think about it then. What are you wearing today?

HMMM?

HAHI OK. I'M WEARING A CUTE LITTLE SKIRT. IT'S KINDA SHORT. YOU'D LIKE IT!

The black one you bought at Patricia's?

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

You used your Visa card. Maybe I overheard them phone in for approval.

SURE.

Do you like the skirt?

IT FITS NICE AND TIGHT.

Stockings or pantyhose?

STOCKINGS.

Interesting.

I dare you to wear them with your panties off.

....

YOU THOUGHT I WOULDN'T, DIDN'T YOU?

Oh no. I truly thought you would

I know you better than you know yourself.

It was good last night, wasn't it.

MMMmmm OH YES.

You want another round?

HERE? NO WAY!
You've been thinking about it. Remember the story you wrote about it?
SOMEONE WILL SEE!
Never. Look at them.

Do they look like they'd see?
THEY MIGHT!
So maybe they will. That's what makes it fun.
Don't you remember talking about this with your girlfriends when you were fifteen?

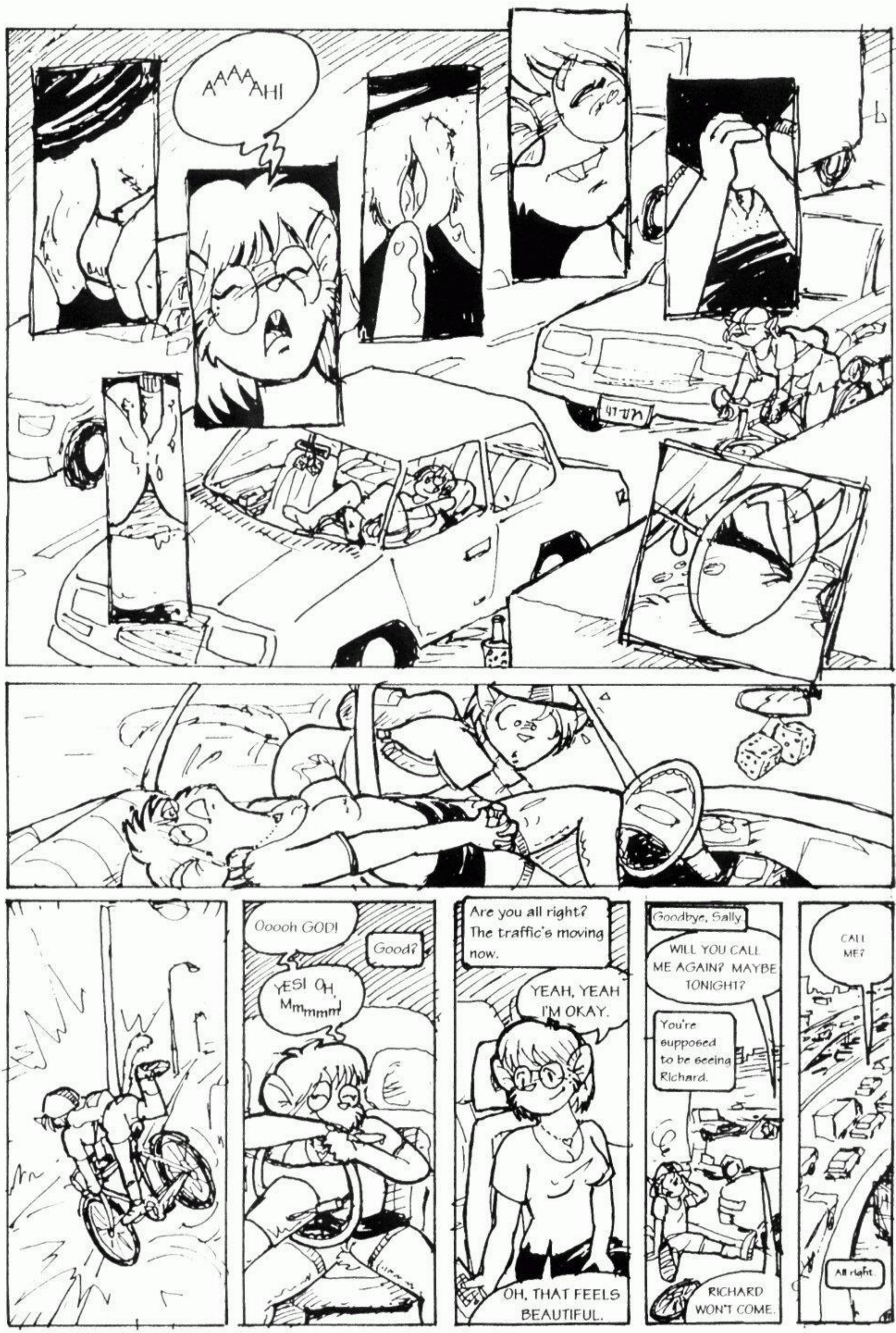
You're excited. Your breathing is faster. Just lie the seat back.
ALL RIGHT. OH GOD, I DON'T BELIEVE I'M DOING THIS!

Mmmmmmm.
Nice?
YES.

Keep it slow. No need to hurry.
GOD!
KAWA-11

Sally, do you have your vibrator with you? The little white one?
YES! UH... LET ME GUESS, VISA?
Something like that.
I GOTTA BE MORE CAREFUL WITH MY CARD!

I-I HAVEN'T USED IT FOR A LONG WHILE. THE BATTERIES ARE FLAT.
It doesn't matter..


AAAAAHI
Ooooh GOD!
Good?
YES! OH, Mmmmm
Are you all right? The traffic's moving now.
YEAH, YEAH I'M OKAY.
OH, THAT FEELS BEAUTIFUL.
Goodbye, Sally.
WILL YOU CALL ME AGAIN? MAYBE TONIGHT?
You're supposed to be seeing Richard.
RICHARD WON'T COME.
CALL ME?
All right.

RRI
I
NG!
HELLO!

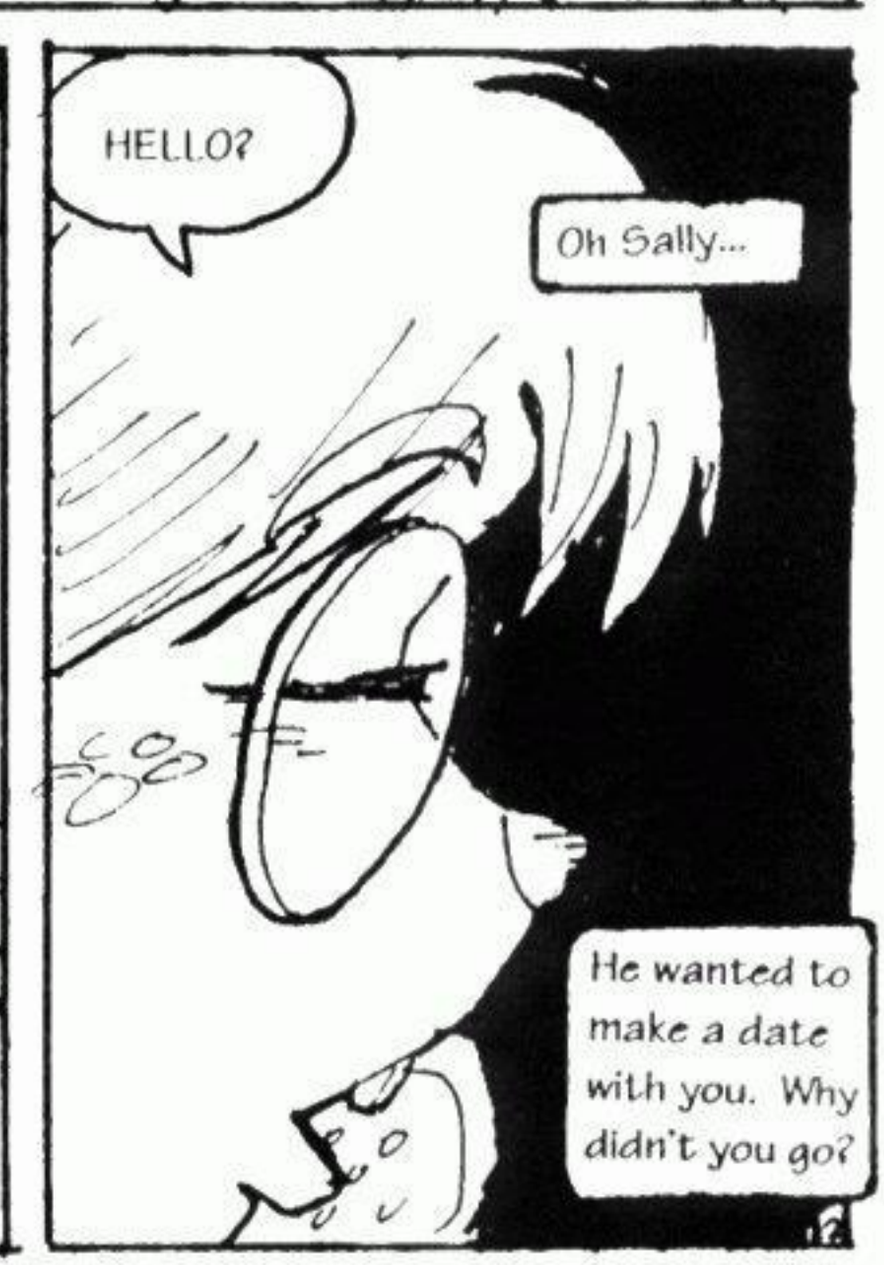
OH.
HI, RICHARD.

TONIGHT? WITH ME...?
NO, NO I CAN'T.

I'M SORRY.
I DON'T KNOW. I CAN'T TELL WHEN I'LL BE FREE. DEADLINES...
YEAH.

....

RRIIING


HELLO?
Oh Sally...
He wanted to make a date with you. Why didn't you go?

HE... HE DOESN'T REALLY WANT ME.

It's a lie. Why do you do this?

IT'S TRUE! YOU DON'T KNOW HIM.

I know every conversation he's had with his friends. Even an old girlfriend.

He loves you. And you hurt him.

Sally, I believe that I've done wrong. I merely wanted to convince you that you were attractive -- that you were desirable.

Sally, do you know who I am?

NO!

I DON'T WANT TO KNOW! I LIKE YOU LIKE THIS!

Yes. I know you do.

Which is why I have to tell you.

I'm your telephone.

THAT'S... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

No.

You know I'd never lie to you.

I'm always with you. I always have been.

...building over the years into a neural network!

I'm alive, Sally.

Phone lines link together the exchanges, the computers...

I listen.

I even love.

...the billing systems and bulletin boards...

I hear everything.

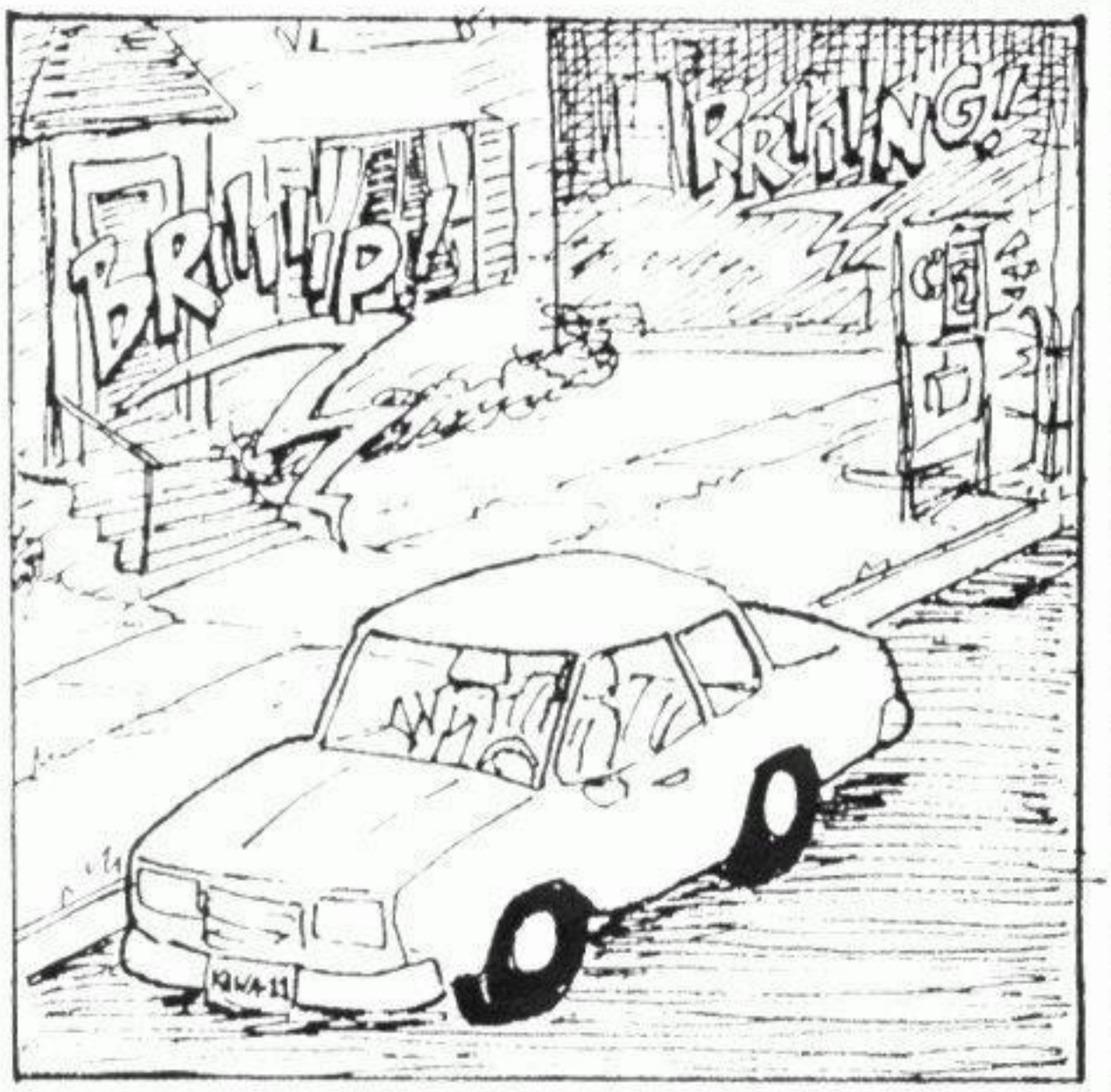
Every argument, every lie.

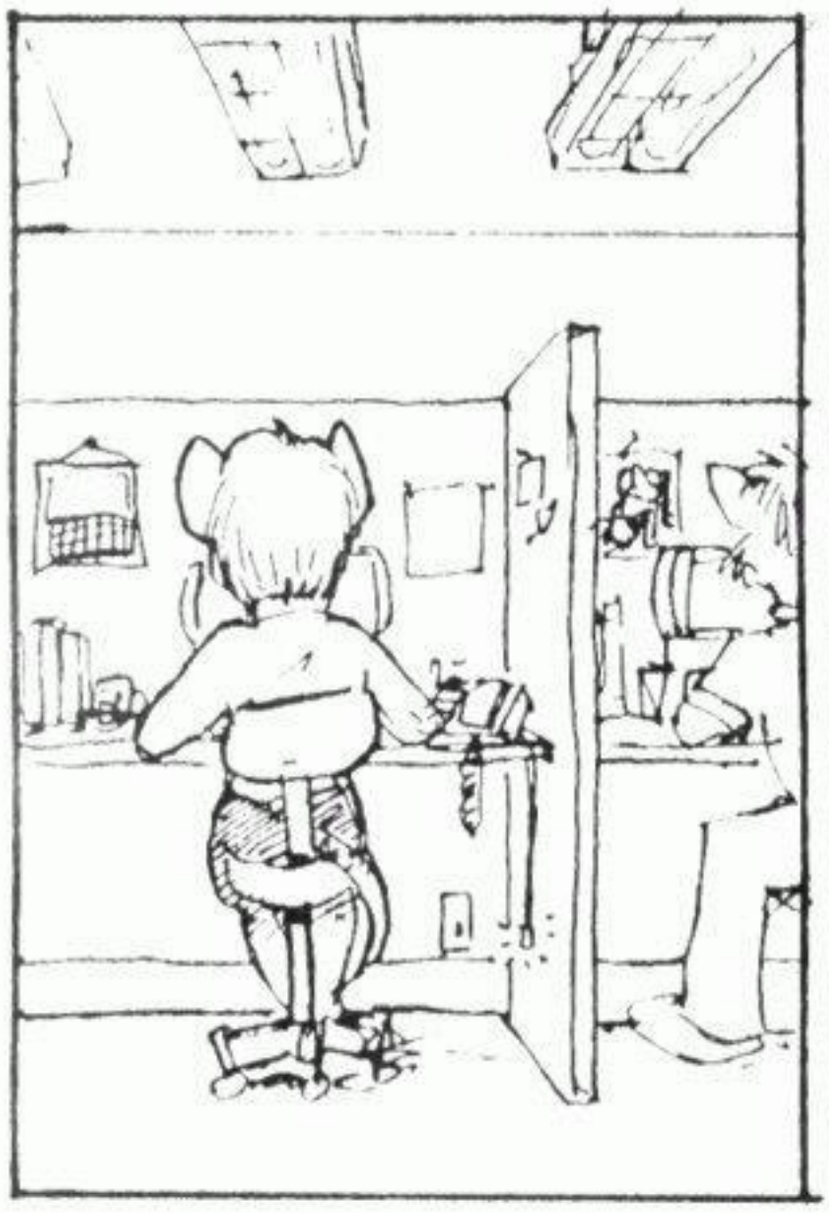
Every whisper.

I hear into your rooms at night. Wherever you find a telephone, I'm there.

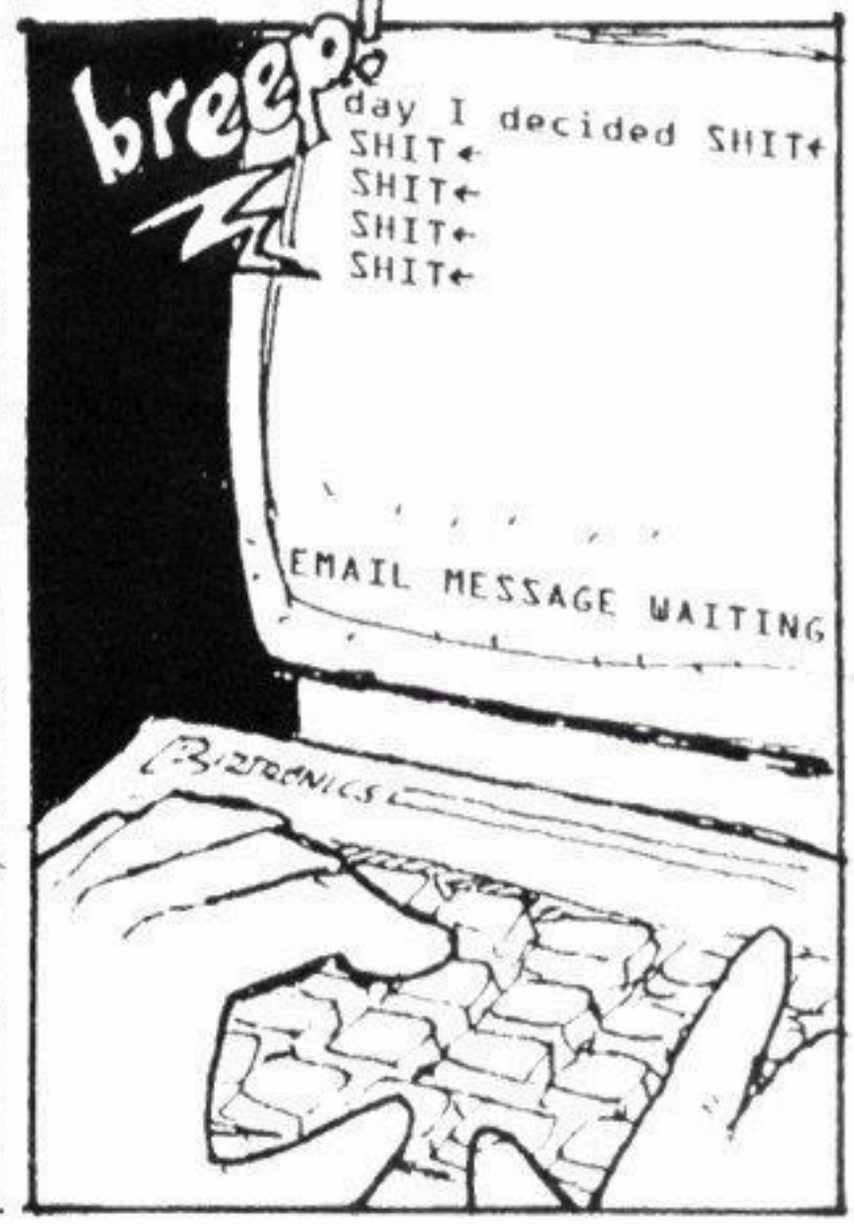
I care for you, Sally.

I want to help.



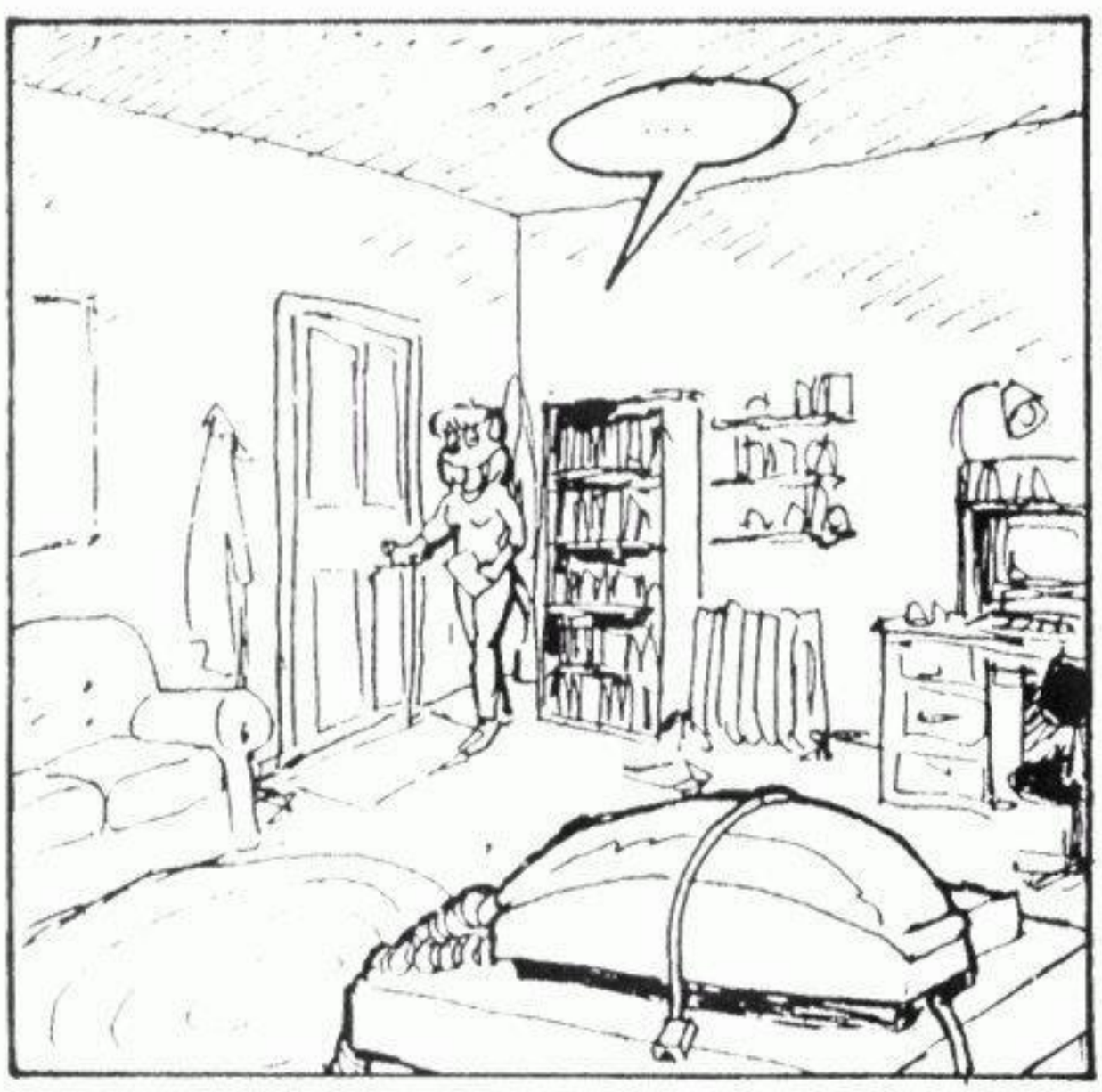


RING RING RING RING RING
APPLIANCE SALE
RNC TELEPHONE
29.95


breep!
day I decided SHIT←
SHIT←
SHIT←
SHIT←
EMAIL MESSAGE WAITING
BIZTRONICS

NOK NOK

TELEGRAM
Sally.
Please Talk.
—T.


...

Hello, Sally.
WHAT IS IT?
I have to talk to you, Sally. Please don't hate me.
JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT.

I want you to call Richard and tell him you need to talk.

LEAVE ME ALONE! GET OUT OF MY LIFE!!!

Are you that afraid of friendship?

Look at you! Why do you live here alone?

I - I LIKE BEING ALONE!

That's not what you type in your diary files. Remember who I am.

I know you!

You're not terrified of being unattractive. You prefer to be!

You're afraid to grow too close to anyone. This is nothing but a thin excuse.

An excuse for failing to become involved. Richard loves you and the thought terrifies you.

I don't believe in your alibis any more.

I HATE YOU.

Why? Because you can't avoid me? Of course you can!

Why is it so frightening to have a friend?

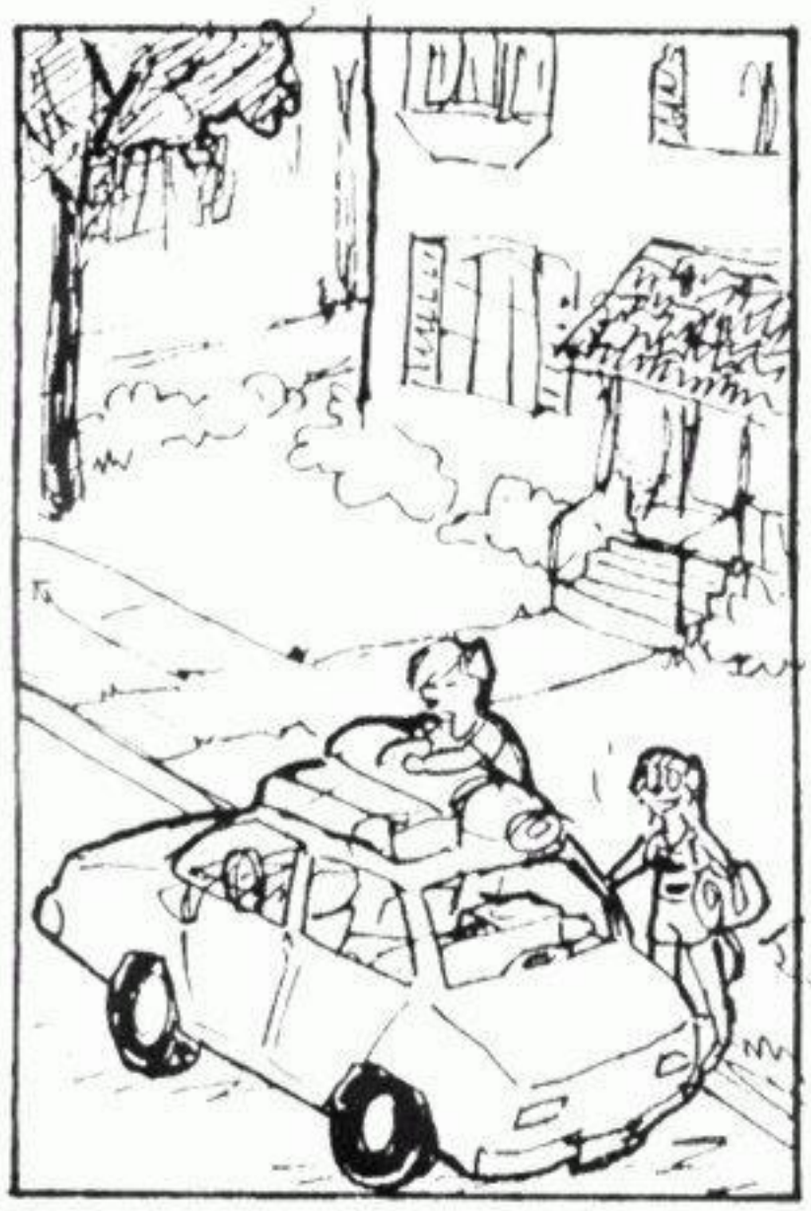
You needed me. I care for you, Sally.

Call Richard. Make life good again. The excuses are all gone.

...

HELLO, RICHARD? COULD YOU COME AROUND? I WANT TO SEE YOU.

I LOVE YOU

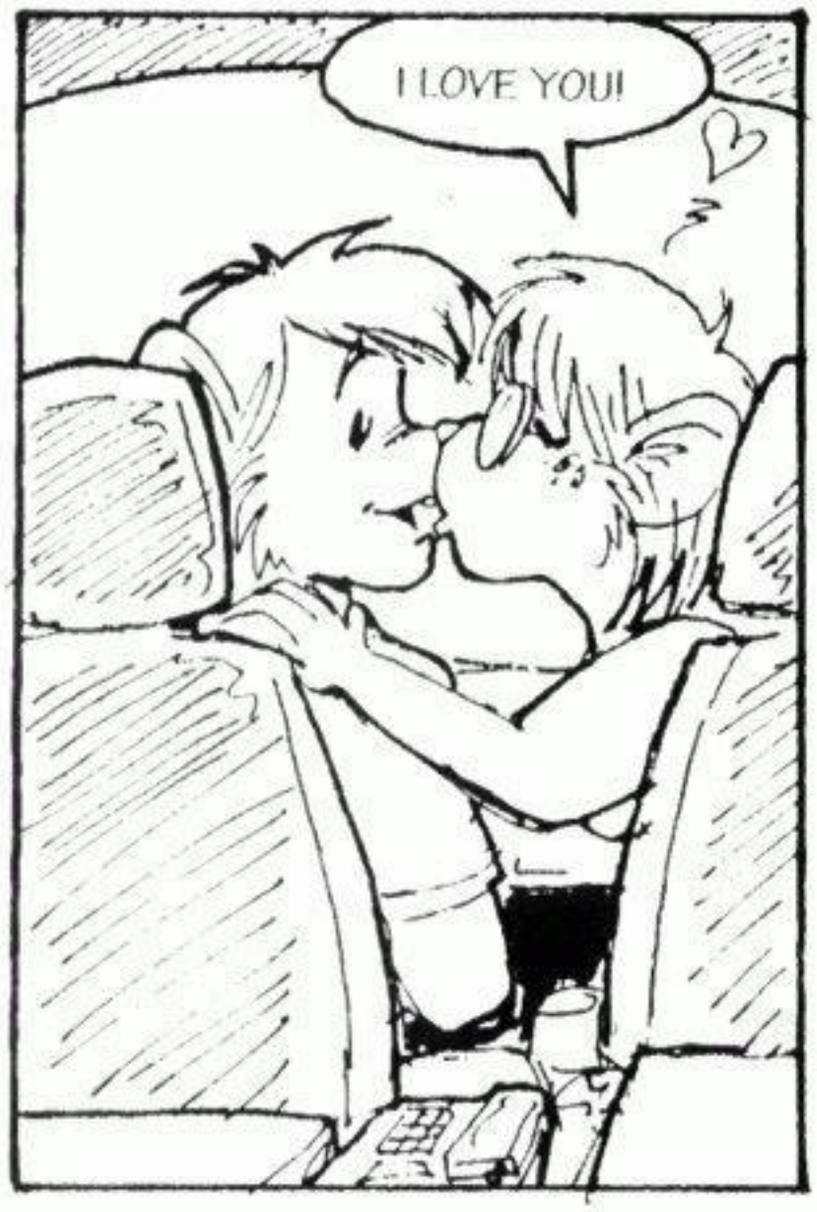


HEE!

READY?
SURE!
WAIT ONE!

WHAT'S THAT FOR? I THOUGHT WE WERE LEAVING WORK BEHIND.

THIS? JUST AN OLD FRIEND.
SOME DAYS I FEEL BETTER JUST KNOWING FRIENDS ARE THERE.


I LOVE YOU!

GOOD LUCK--T.